

## The Colored American

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### A NATIONAL NEGRO NEWSPAPER

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#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

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INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

Subscriptions may be sent by postoffice money order, express or by registered letter. All communications for publication should be accompanied with the name of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We solicit news, contributions, opinions and in fact, all matters affecting the race. We will not pay for matter, however, unless it is ordered by us. All matter intended for publication must reach this office by Wednesday of each week to insure insertion in the current issue.

Agents are wanted everywhere. Send or instructions.

#### ADVERTISING RATES.

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All letters, communications, and business matters should be addressed to

**THE COLORED AMERICAN,**  
**EDWARD E. COOPER, MANAGER**

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SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1902.

#### SELF-GOVERNMENT.

The Washington Post has on its editorial staff a very brainy and accomplished individual whose especial function is to read up on all the incidents, social, political or otherwise, that place the Negro in a bad light before the world. After absorbing his information this brainy individual's duty, as well as pleasure, is to deftly distort the facts and deduce a set of conclusions that prove the black man's inferiority mentally, morally and as a factor in the affairs of government. Of late, this erudite person appears to be working overtime.

The Haitian revolution was the impelling cause of The Post's most recent spasm. Because the personal ambition of rival leaders and the development of contending factions crystallized into a revolution, after the fashion of tropical nations our Avenue contemporary observes that the Negro is incapable of self-government. It fails to tell its readers, however, that human nature is the same in the black race as it is in the white, and that love of power and the abuse of it follow in the wake of opportunity. From the plains of Marathon, from the fall of Rome, from the rise of Oliver Cromwell, or the repulse of the English tyrants from our own shores, down to the retreat of Simon Sam, the history of the world has taught us that the strong will rule, right or wrong, and that the weak will be forced beneath the yoke. In the philosophy of governments, white and black, might is adjudged as right. The Haitian revolution does not prove that the Negro is any less capable of self-government than a race that produced a cruel Nero, a dictatorial Napoleon, a treacherous Arnold or a nihilistic Czolgosz. The voodooism of Haiti is no match for the fiendish barbarities perpetrated in the name of religion in the days of the Spanish Inquisition, and the "blood-thirsty" Christophe never gave an order more subversive to Christian civilization than that of General Smith in the Philippines, who commanded that

Samar be made a "howling wilderness" through the wholesale murder of innocents. The Haitian revolution, like those of France, of America, and of Colombia, merely indicate that the thirst for power and restless ambition are the same in all the races of mankind.

If The Post's hired hand wishes to be fair to the real Negro—the Negro who is now securing control of the destiny of his people—let him come over and have a little chat with us. We would tell him of the remarkable progress the race has made in forty years of freedom, and illustrate that advance by pointing to our growing roster of educators, ministers, professional and business men, literateurs, newspapers and beneficial organizations. We would ask him to look over the books of such massive, and skilfully managed fraternities as the Masonic, Odd Fellows, True Reformers and United Brothers, also the great A. M. E. and A. M. E. Zion connections, and the Baptist denomination with their five churches, well equipped schools and publishing houses. The other denominations set an equally clear example of our proficiency in the art of self government and departure from the superstitions of the past. This data could be multiplied many times over, if space permitted.

The esteemed Post is wrong. That's all.

*No people can be blamed for praising the bridge that carries them over in safety.*

#### NATIONAL NEGRO BUSINESS LEAGUE.

A comprehensive little volume has been issued giving all the details of the third annual meeting of the National Negro Business League at Richmond, Va., August 25, 26 and 27. The Colored Men's Business Association of Boston has arranged to run a private excursion party from that city, to be joined at way points by delegates residing between Boston and Richmond. The book contains the complete itinerary noting each stopping place, time of arrival of train, and names of persons who will be in charge of local arrangements. The rates are remarkably low, and, besides the delegates, many citizens will join the party, to see Richmond, and to attend both the sessions of the Business League and the annual conference of the True Reformers. There is no rivalry between these two gatherings. As they are harmonious in the work of race-building, the one will be a help to the other, and greatly augment the attendance.

Washington should be largely represented in Richmond in August.

*Little offices have destroyed the influence of hundreds of large men.*

#### HOME IMPROVEMENT.

If you wish to know the status of a people go into their homes. No race is better than the conditions under which it is content to live, when it has the power to change them. We have been pleased to note several articles in the Caucasian papers describing the improved homes of colored people in the South. The one room cabin, with its dirt floor and unspeakable chink filling is giving away to neat frame cottages, cheerfully furnished. Ragged beds are disappearing, and in the parlors are found pianos and organs. Education is raising the standard of taste and this creates a desire for higher moral ideals. The development of the home in the Southland is the sur-

## The Booker T. Washington Lithograph.

There has been such a great demand for the lithograph used as a supplement in The Colored American last week that more copies have been printed and will be sent to any person who will send ten cents (stamps accepted). These lithographs are printed in four colors and have all the appearance of an oil painting. They ought to be in every school room, in every public library, every literary society and in the homes of every intelligent colored person. To agents who wish to sell them they will be furnished in numbers of ten copies or more at five cents each. We will send the same lithograph, framed and shipped by express, for \$1.50. Send in your order at once to THE COLORED AMERICAN, Washington, D. C.

est index of race advancement. It is the sword and the shield that will most effectively confound our enemies.

*An ignoramus cannot help being narrow. Educate!*

#### EDITOR JOHNSON AND TILLMAN.

Editor W. D. Johnson, who has been in the city for several days looking after some matters of interest affecting the colored people, had a thirty-five minutes talk with Senator Ben Tillman of South Carolina. The Senator wrote a letter recently to the convention of Baptists in Petersburg, Va., in which he said that the colored people were mistaken if they thought him an enemy to the race. Mr. Johnson called upon him to reconcile this statement with his oft repeated sentiments on the matter. The Senator promised to answer in writing ten pointed questions which were propounded by Mr. Johnson. The country would like to hear from Senator Tillman through Editor Johnson at an early date.

Has Ben Tillman been seeing a great light, we wonder?

Newspapers are what their patrons permit them to be. No paper can live that is without a constituency.

There are a lot of worthless people in the world who never forgive a man for succeeding over their protest.

The Lexington Standard reproduced in full our Mr. Thompson's story of "How Booker T. Washington Won the World."

If the New York Journal will take a trip to Atlanta, it will see a new light on its idea of the Negro's lack of the rebellious spirit.

Haven't you ever noticed that whether you raise a finger against your enemy or not, he gets the worst of it in the long run.

At the recent public meeting of the Pen and Pencil Club the name of Director Merriam was not mentioned, although there was good reason why it should have been.

We welcome to our exchange list The New Era, published at Hyattsville, Md., devoted to the interests of Prince George's county. It is neatly printed and bears evidence of sufficient vitality to stay.

Our associate editor says "Thank you, very kindly" to those who felt moved to cheer his few words on Pen and Pencil Club Day in defense of the Negro's great work in the development of our national life.

If it be true that in some audiences the name of Booker T. Washington is coldly received, we doubt very much

if in those same gatherings a word of praise for Jesus Christ would elicit three amens.

The anniversary edition of The Florida Sentinel reflected immeasurable credit upon Editor M. M. Lewey, and is a convincing evidence of the great progress that our race is making in the Southland, despite many untoward circumstances.

The Colored American is the only Negro journal of its kind published. It is not only national, with a touch of the local, but is international in scope. It combines in a well balanced degree, the newspaper, the advocate and the magazine. Now is the time to subscribe.

If the blame for the annihilation of the colored clerks in Census office belongs to the individual members of Congress and not to the Director, then it is up to the decapitated ones and their friends to make the individual members a special order of business at the November election.

If there has been racial discrimination at the Census office without the knowledge of Director Merriam, his friendly feeling for the Negro ought to induce him to not only keep all colored clerks that are now on the rolls but reinstate the capable ones that were discharged unintentionally.

The sympathy of our great nation goes out to the unfortunate victims of Mont Pelee's volcanic fury. Such catastrophes serve to strengthen the ties of universal brotherhood, and are not in vain. America's prompt response, with dollars and bread, is a practical demonstration of our deep feeling. It is to the credit of all that we have scarcely remembered the color of the bulk of the sufferers.

The Macon News is one of the most influential journals published by Caucasians in Georgia. It is always interesting and liberal in its view of public questions, and we are glad to have it on our exchange list. It told the wholesome truth the other day which may lead the esteemed Montgomery Advertiser to rise to a point of order. The Macon News said, "Alabama is known in the North as the state in which Tuskegee is located."

#### THE HIGHEST OPINIONS.

Editor Colored American—Send me one hundred copies. Your history of Booker T. Washington should be the study of our young graduates.

JAMES LEWIS,

U. S. Surveyor's Office, New Orleans, La., May 18th, 1902

Editor Colored American—The Colored American's new departure is all right. Keep it up.

CHRIS J. PERRY,

Office of The Tribune, Philadelphia, Pa., May 20th, 1902.